

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: F/NWR2 - Katherine King

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report #1 -- 2000 Pacific Whiting Fishery – End of Mothership Season and California Shore-based fishery.

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2000 Pacific whiting fishery off Washington, Oregon, and California. The catcher/processor and non-tribal mothership fishery started on May 15. As of June 5, 2000, 4 catcher/processors and 6 mothership processors were operating in the at-sea fishery. The mothership fishery is expected to reach its allocation late in the week of June 5. As in previous years, the catcher/processor fishery for whiting continues at a slower pace, due in part to the industry's cooperative agreement to divide the allocation amongst themselves, eliminating the need to compete with more vessels at a faster pace. The shore-based season in most of the Eureka area (between 42°- 40°30' N. lat.) began on April 1, and the fishery south of 40° 30' N. lat. opened April 15. The shore-based whiting fishery south of 42° N. lat. is expected to reach its allocation late in the week of June 5. The shore-based fishery north of 42° N. lat. will start on June 15.

	Allocation		Catch (mt)	Thru [date]	Status	Percent of allocation taken
	Percentages	Metric Tons				
California (south of 42 N lat.)	(5% shore alloc'n; included in WOC shore allocation)	4,190	2,797	5/27	CA season started April 1; 5% alloc'n	66.8%
Oregon	--	NA	27	6/5	start 6/15	
Washington	--	NA	0	6/5	start 6/15	
WOC shoreside	42% commercial OY	83,790	2,824			3.4%
Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.)	24% commercial OY	47,880	38,599	6/5	started 0001 hrs 5/15/00	80.6%
Catcher/processor (n. of 42 N. lat.)	34% commercial OY	67,830	13,803	6/5	started 0001 hrs 5/15/00	20.3%
Total nontribal	commercial OY (86% OY)	199,500	55,226	--	--	27.7%
Tribal (Makah)	14% OY	32,500	0	6/5		0.0%
Total	OY=optimum yeild	232,000	55,226	--	--	23.8%

* Catch includes discards from at-sea processors; weigh-backs from shore-based catcher vessels; and small amounts landed under the 20,000-pound trip limit between the seasons. The data for at-sea processing (catcher/processors and motherships) are preliminary and are based on reports from NMFS-certified observers. Data for shoreside processors also are preliminary and are provided by each State to NMFS for the purpose of monitoring the fishery. If you have questions on shoreside landings, please contact the appropriate state fishery management agency. Preliminary data for the Makah fishery will be from a NMFS-trained observer. All weights are round weight (the weight of the whole fish before processing) or round-weight equivalents. One metric ton is 2,204.6 pounds.